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THE HEAVENLY RIVER.

From the N. Y. Evening Post.
Beneath old lindens, leaning o'er
A silver stream below,
One slender girl sat musing
One summer, long ago—
Too strongly the beautiful were her eyes
For one so very young,
But oh, the light on her sweet face,
How heavenly it shone!
The meadow blossoms, white and red,
Just nodded to the breeze,
The hummed song, and birds piped low,
Among the linden trees;
With drowsy murmurs round the stream,
Along its shaded shore,
And far away the mountain peaks
With light were gilded o'er.
She does not see the loose white clouds
That fringe the tender sky,
The sleeping landscape, cool and warm,
Fills not her thoughtful eye.
In vain for her the sounds that soothe
Earth's beautiful repose—
A softer sense of nobler things
Within her bosom glows.
Downy plumes beneath her fan,
The tear-drops from her hair,
And hush her from the mortal air
With undulating grace,
After she sees the heavenly hills
Take shape and pillars rise,
The golden spires and jeweled domes
Flash on the easy skies.
Now all the living waves appear,
Palm groves, waving slopes of green,
Cool spray dells, and flowery nooks,
With nectar springs between,
Fruitful amidst immortal flowers
That garland shore and tree,
And all the scented air breathes out
A faint, sweet melody.
She sees bright fairs, group on group,
Down shaded vistas bend,
And soft eyes look from floating isles,
That bloom on many a stream—
Here shining wings hang listless o'er
Some summer-cliff above,
And down, two sweet voices and sinuous rills,
The Angels talk of love.
Beneath the palms on that high shore
She rests in deep content—
But hark! what wondrous swell of song
Comes with her bosom's thrill!
All round her lips and voices thrill,
And myriad forms appear,
And on from bank and bowing, like light,
They haste to meet their King.
She sees the Savior's radiant form
By many a sainted group,
And hark! what joy, what gladness greet
Him loved so well and long.
A way—twinkling in her dream—
She springs with smiling brow,
But falls! down, down—the waters close—
She walks with Jesus now!
H. N. LARSEN, N. Y.

The Love of Money.

In the catchment of the nineteenth century, says Hiram Fuller, the true answer to the question, "What is the chief end of man?" should be—MONEY. When one pauses to reflect upon this universal scramble after the "root of all evil," the money-mania of the day becomes a sort of miraculous phenomenon. It seems to be the *summa bonum* of human existence; the *ultima ratio* of human effort. Men work for it, fight for it, starve for it, live for it, and die for it. And all the while, from the cradle to the grave, nature and God are ever tugging in our ears the solemn question: "What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" This madness for money is the strongest and lowest of the passions; it is the insatiable Molech of the human heart, before whose remorseless altar all the finer attributes of humanity are sacrificed. It makes merchandise of all that is sacred in human affection; and even traffics in the awful solemnities of the eternal world. Fathers sell their daughters for gold; and temples dedicated to religion are used as markets for the display of the glittering temptation.

Miserly men, in the possession of great wealth, and who pretend to love their children as the "apple of their eye," will stint them in education, in pleasure, and in health, and keep them cramped and miserable for lack of money, though all the earlier and better years of their existence; and when Death relaxes the old man's grasp from his money-bags, the overwhelming avalanche of wealth becomes often a curse rather than a blessing to his heirs. Human life, at long last, is but a span; a fleeting dream; a passing apparition in the phantasmagoria of Time.

Truth.

Every word of it. Cut it out and learn it by heart.
We should make it a principle to extend the hand of friendship to every man who discharges faithfully his duties, and maintains good order—who manifests a deep interest in the welfare of general society—whose deportment is upright, and whose mind intelligent—without stopping to ascertain whether he swings a hammer or draws a thread. There is nothing so distant from all nature's claims as the reluctance, the backward sympathy, the forced smile, the checked conversation, the hesitating compliance, the well of art to manifest to those a little lower down, with whom, in the comparison of intellect and principles of virtue, they frequently sink into insignificance.

The San Jose Telegraph contains the following notice of retributive justice.
A Mrs. Willis, was murdered in her own house, by a Mexican, a few miles east of San Jose, in the day time, and while her husband was absent for a few hours in this city. The villain, it is known, sought refuge in the mountain fastnesses, and eluded the efforts to arrest him. On Monday night he came down to the ranch of Ricardo Higuera, and was standing by the fence, when called to, refused to answer, and was ordered to conceal himself behind the fence by stopping. Higuera fired at the bandit, who then spoke, and was then immediately recognized by his voice to be the murderer of Mrs. Willis. Higuera again loaded his gun, and demanding that the bandit through the head, killing him instantly.
Do not give \$5.00 to convert the murderer. He is the son of the poor man who made up the amount.

The Homestead Bill.

There is no measure before Congress in which the people take so great an interest as the bill granting one hundred and sixty acres each of the public lands to actual settlers. It is a measure in which the laboring classes especially are interested, inasmuch as it will enable thousands to obtain the means of an independent livelihood, who are now compelled by circumstances to cultivate, at great disadvantage, the lands of others—as tenants. They have long expected that the government would adopt some such wise policy as this, and the great favor with which the measure has been received throughout almost the entire country, especially in the Central States and the great West—taken in connection with the fact that it has twice passed the popular branch of our national Legislature—leaves little doubt as to its ultimate success. During the present session, many of the leading Democrats in the Senate have taken strong ground in favor of it, and when it comes to a vote, we have no doubt a majority of that body will give it their support.

But few have said anything in opposition to the Homestead bill, and those who have done so use no argument that has any weight. Mr. Thompson, a Native American Whig from Kentucky, some time since, took occasion to pour forth a tirade of abusive declamation against it, signifying it as a measure to benefit those who were too lazy to earn money by their own hands; and opposing it especially because its provisions and benefits would extend to adopted citizens, and those about becoming such. But such sentiments are happily entertained by but few, and they the most bigoted of the leaders of the anti-progressive. This declaration of Mr. Thompson that the measure was for the benefit of the indolent, is only intended by this friend of land monopoly to create a prejudice against a measure which would so effectually prevent land jobbers from possessing themselves of vast portions of the public domain, and then retelling it to the settlers at exorbitant prices.

As regards the economy of the measure, and the pecuniary interest of the government, we hold that as only alternate sections are to be granted free to the settlers, the increased value of the remaining lands, the development of the resources and consequently increased wealth and commerce of the country, will more than equal the revenue the public treasury might receive from the sales which would otherwise take place. There are thousands of young men just commencing in life, who have by industry and economy accumulated sufficient means to take them to the frontier settlements, and probably enough to provide them with a few of the comforts and necessities of life in their rustic homes in the west, who have not two or three hundred dollars besides with which to buy lands. They are of the most deserving class, and if once enabled to possess a home, where they would not be compelled to give one half of the results of their labor to some "lord of the soil," would soon be prosperous and happy citizens, blessings to society and to the country. Then when the far west becomes thus settled with enterprising and industrious farmers—for we do not believe the indolent would accept a farm on condition that they should cultivate it five years—the remaining alternate sections will be sought for and purchased by the more wealthy, at three or four times the price they could be sold for at present. Those who have friends in the Eastern States will induce them to purchase lands adjoining theirs in the West, and thus the government will realize as much for the public lands in this way, as by the mode heretofore practised, and much sooner than by any other system. There can be no doubt that this would be the policy of a judicious proprietor, who aimed at a ready reduction of his lands into money at fair prices.

Some have opposed that because the President has vetoed a bill making a large grant of land for the benefit of the States respectively—that he would also veto the Homestead Bill. We do not think so. It is conceded that Congress has power to dispose of the public land in a proper manner, and that body has always exercised this power either in selling, or making grants to soldiers in the United States service, and others. It is only the injudicious and prodigal granting of lands for purposes other than the several States alone have control, and indiscriminate giving to corporations and monopolists, to which the President objects. There is nothing in this measure which indicates that he will veto the Homestead Bill, and should it pass the Senate this Session, the prospect for which seem very fair—we doubt not he will promptly and gladly give it the executive sanction.

The Insane Bill was passed under the importunities of Miss Dix, a lady well calculated to enlist the sympathies of Congressmen in favor of the unfortunate class for whom the grant was asked. It appears that through gallantry and desire to please the fair petitioner, as well as to relieve the insane, members overlooked the fact that they were making provision for an object entirely outside of their legitimate sphere—*Marietta Republican*.

Bronchitis.

A receipt gives the following as a cure for the bronchitis: Take honey in a little water, occasionally moistening the lips and mouth with it. It has never been known to fail in cases even where children had throats so swollen as to be unable to swallow.

The Nebraska Bill a Law.

We announced the passage of the Nebraska bill through the House, with the Clayton amendment, which prohibited unauthorized foreigners voting in the territories, stricken out, and expressed the belief that the Senate would concur and the President sign the bill. This belief has been realized. By a very decisive vote the Senate concurred, and Tuesday the President signed the bill.

Our position on this matter is pretty well known by our readers. And those who have read our articles with even ordinary care, know that our opposition to the movement was not based upon abolition or free soil grounds, because we have no sympathy in common with them. In the Presidential campaign we held up the Baltimore Platform as a positive guarantee that if Franklin Pierce were elected to the Presidency, he would in no wise countenance the slavery agitation—that he would hold that platform to be a sacred covenant with the people, the violation of which would incur the penalty of the people's dire disapprobation. The country was tired of the slavery agitation; an agitation fruitful alone of evil to the confederacy—and, therefore, accepted the positive assurance in the Baltimore Platform, that the Democratic party will resist all attempts at renewing in Congress or out of it, the agitation of the slavery question, under whatever shape or color the attempt may be made.

Over his signature as President of the United States, Franklin Pierce vowed his determination to adhere to that provision of the Platform; his New York appointments were made with this end in view. A Cabinet letter gave only New Yorkers but the people everywhere to understand that fidelity to the Baltimore Platform would be regarded by this administration as a test of orthodoxy. We refer to Mr. Guthrie's letter to G. C. Bronson, Esq., and to the thorough substantiation what we say, we quote therefrom the following passage:

"You are aware that to the principles of the Baltimore Convention and the policy intimated by the Inaugural Address, the President and his constitutional advisers stand pledged before the world. They have been, and are, united as one man upon those principles and that policy, and had reason to believe that all gentlemen, who consented to accept office under the administration, stood pledged to the same principles and policy."

Up to as late a date as the 20th January, we believe, the Washington Union supposed to speak the sentiments of the President touching leading measures, intimated the same idea. The proposition to repeal the Missouri Compromise was brought forward by a Southern Whig Senator, and at the time of its introduction the Washington Union denounced the project, and also intimated a fidelity to the Baltimore Platform. All this met the approbation of our judgment. Up to this time we stood with the President, the Cabinet and the Washington Union, because they maintained the pledged faith of the party; but when Douglas assumed the paternity of this Whig project, engraved it in his amendment, and the Administration, and the Washington Union, came up to his support, of course we could not and would not expose their now-born faith, begotten of the sham pretext of "popular sovereignty." The true state of the case can be briefly stated, and we state it more in sorrow than in anger—President Pierce has proven recreant to the Baltimore Platform, and instead of throwing his influence, as in honor bound, against the renewal of the slavery agitation in Congress, he has fomented it. All this does not suffice. Not satisfied with wounding the honor of the party, we are informed, semi-officially, that if we do not now give in our adhesion to this treason to the party, we shall be excommunicated. Excommunicate those who faithfully stand by the Baltimore Platform, will they? This audacity is equal to the Devil's when from a high eminence he pointed out to Christ immense acres of land, telling him that he would give it to him. The truth was the Devil did not own one inch of it. On precisely the same principle does the Administration act when it alleges a demand to excommunicate Democrats, who will not give in their adhesion to its recreancy. It vainly imagines it is the Democratic party, and that, as a matter of course whatever it does must meet the sanction of those who have labored to elevate it. It will yet discover that it is but an agent and not a principal.

So long as there existed a disposition to tolerate an honest difference of opinion on this subject, we were disposed to reciprocate; but as the mandate has gone forth that an absolute acquiescence is a test of orthodoxy we shall not ground our arms of opposition to it. We are pretty confident that the jugglers at Washington will discover before six months elapse, that the adoption by the Administration of the project to repeal the Missouri Compromise, and thereby violating the Baltimore Platform, was a most unfortunate movement, and that this test will be contemptuously spurned.

We hope, therefore, that every Democrat who voted against this bill will be re-elected, and that those Democrats who voted for the bill, will be displaced by Democrats who are opposed to it. *Chillicothe Advertiser*.

For Nebraska.—A letter from New York says a party of 100 young men, composed of mechanics and workmen, is forming in that city to emigrate to Nebraska. They purpose leaving the over-crowded, debt-ridden city of New York, where efficient labor is scarce, and the land is so dear, for the fertile and healthy soil of Nebraska, where they can earn their own living, and where they can be free from the oppressive and tyrannical rule of the few who own the land, and who are so unwilling to let the poor people make up the amount.

Movements after Cuba.

A letter from Washington, on the 24th, to the Baltimore Sun, gives us some inkings of important movements after Cuba.

There was yesterday a considerable flurry among politicians, in consequence of an alarming report of a speedy war with Spain. The dispatches just received are, probably, of a character that will enable the President to maintain the warlike tone that he assumed in the message of the 14th of March, on the Black Warrior case.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate yesterday held a meeting on the subject of the resolution before them relative to Cuba. They came to no conclusion on the subject, and are to take another consultation after obtaining the Spanish documents which will embrace the edicts relative to the slave trade, apprenticeships, &c. There is no probability that the committee will make a report very soon, in favor of the proposition of Senator Slidell, or of a blockade of the Cuban ports.

Great preparations have been made by the Fillibusters for a descent upon Cuba. The association now commands a fund of a million of dollars, and they have an able and experienced General at their head. They put their Governor, General, against the Governor-General, and with five thousand troops, to be armed and equipped with the aid of the "mysterious muskets," they are to undertake to land in Cuba. They do not expect to conquer the island, and keep it without the aid of the United States.

Upon the failure of Mr. Slidell's resolution a blockade will be resorted to. At all events our Fillibusters will be enabled, without hindrance, to carry out their own plans, until Congress can be dragged into the measure. Preparations are now making to get in readiness a naval force to enable the President to give some efficiency to the blockade in opposition to the French and Spanish fleets. It is supposed by many that we shall be in a state of flagrant war with foreign powers in ninety days.

The Demolished City.

As we have lately announced, the city of San Salvador was totally destroyed by an earthquake on the night of Easter Sunday, by which upwards of two hundred lives, and more than four millions' worth of property were destroyed in less than one minute of time. On the Friday previous, until the night of Sunday the 19th, when, about 10 o'clock P. M., a rolling sensation, as that of a wave of the sea, and which lasted for about fifty seconds, laid the whole city level with the ground. The night being calm, the dust occasioned by the falling of the houses obscured the whole atmosphere, rendering it impossible for the people to recognize their own relatives. Plunder and robbery followed, as a matter of course; the Government, with the troops, having removed from the scene of destruction at an early hour upon the following morning. The consequences of this ruin are likely to be attended with very serious results to commercial business throughout the republic. The authorities have petitioned the neighboring States for assistance in money, provisions and labor.

By the Empress, arrived at New Orleans on the 24th May, six days from San Juan, a letter was received, which states that the destruction of life and property by the late earthquake was far more awful than at first represented, nearly 5000 persons having been killed by the catastrophe.

Coal.

Mineral coal dug from the earth is organized carbon buried in the ancient reefs and forests by the sinking down of the crust of the plate at particular points, and the washing in of earthly sediments above the submerged forest, to be consolidated into stratified or sedimentary rock. The prodigious force of volcanic power, acting from below, up heaves all these strata, their cracks and wide fissures are washed into vleys by the ceaseless action of the rain, frost, electricity, light, heat, and other meteoric influences, and thus they wear down solid rocks to coal beds, and often far below them.

Carbon is the coal which may be obtained alike from wood, grain, flesh, and almost, if not quite every truly organized product of life. There is carbon enough in the carbonic acid which is chemically combined with lime in limestone rock to cover the whole globe with a pure diamond 500 feet in thickness. While an immense quantity of carbonic acid is discharged into the atmosphere from volcanoes and internal heat, acting like fire on limestone in a burning kiln, by which 100 lbs. of rock loses 44 lbs. of gas; yet old ocean keeps up a natural gas balance, by absorbing an equal quantity of carbonic acid gas to combine with the store of the earthly minerals below.

Give Your Child a Paper.

A child beginning to read becomes delighted with a newspaper, because he reads the names of things which are very familiar, and will make progress accordingly. A newspaper, in one year, is worth a quarter's schooling to a child, and every father must consider that substantial information is connected with advancement. The mother of a family, being one of the heads and having a more immediate charge of children, should herself be instructed. A mind occupied becomes fortified against the ill of life, and is braced for any emergency. Children amuse by reading or study, are of course more conscientious and more easily governed.

Slavery Now Existing in Nebraska.

In an ordinary case I should be very loath to expose a brother missionary; but the case now before us is one of so monstrous a character as to forbid long silence.

It may not be generally known, that there is in this Territory an extensive missionary establishment, under the direction and control of the Methodist Church South, which slaves have long been kept to do the menial service of the mission. These slaves have been kept here in utter disregard of the Missouri Compromise, by which slavery was forever prohibited here.

It would seem to a candid thinker, a difficult matter to conceive a grosser inconsistency than to go forth to preach Christianity to the heathen, and to carry slaves along to assist in the glorious work. Thus, while they would hold up the gospel to the heathen with one hand, with the other they would hold up the bondage on the neck of the poor slave. How can they show any consistency in such a monstrous absurdity? On what grounds should one portion of the human family be degraded and heathenized, to elevate and enlighten another?

But, to come nearer to the point; T. Johnson, the superintendent of this slave-holding mission, by adroit management, was elected, last fall, a Delegate to Congress from this Territory, or, rather, was sent to Washington to attend to matters pertaining to the various tribes of Indians here, preparatory to selling their lands and organizing a Territorial Government. He has been at Washington during the present session of Congress, where he has been using all his influence to secure the passage of Douglas' Nebraska bill, and he has not scrupled to make unfair statements, to promote his ends. He is using his utmost endeavors to induce those Indians to sell out their lands entire, a thing which they are very unwilling to do, and which would be very disastrous to their best interests.

They have emigrated, to make room for the white man, until they can go no further. There are no lands suitable for them. Most of the vast region between this and the Rocky Mountains is a barren desert, and wholly unfit for cultivation. These Indians are disposed to sell all the land they do not need; but they wish to be allowed to remain here in peace and quiet, for they know not where to go. But this Christian missionary would send them away, does he care whether? It is believed that he intends to secure to himself a fat portion of these poor Indians' lands. And he would plant Slavery here; yes, has introduced it here, in violation of the laws of the land. And yet, we are to believe that he is a minister of the Gospel of Christ.

Friends of Freedom! Help! If ye ever intend to fight for Liberty, buckle on your armor, for the time is at hand. **RICHARD MENDENHALL,** Mission Teacher, Friends' Shawnee Mission, Kansas Territory, 5th Mo. 14, 1854.

The Irish Soldier.

Frederick of Prussia had a mania for enlisting gigantic soldiers into the 'Royal Guard,' and paid an enormous bounty to his recruiting officers for getting them. One day a recruiting sergeant chanced to spy a Hibernian who was at least seven feet high; he accosted him in English, and proposed that he should enlist. The idea of a military life, and a large bounty, so delighted Patrick, that he at once consented.

'But,' said the sergeant, 'unless you can speak German, the King will not give you quite so much.'

'Och,' and he jibbers,' said the Irishman, sure and it's I that don't know a word of German.'

'But,' said the sergeant, 'three words will be sufficient, and these you can learn in a short time. The king knows every man in the guards, and as he sees you he will ride up to you and ask you three questions. First, his majesty will ask you how old you are: you will say twenty-seven. Next, how long you've been in the service—you must say three weeks; finally, if you are provided with clothes and rations? answer, both.'

Patrick soon learned to pronounce his answers, but never dreamed of learning the questions. In three weeks he appeared before the king in review. His majesty rode up to him; Paddy stepped forward with 'present arms.'

'How old are you?'

'Three weeks,' said the Irishman.

'How long have you been in service?'

'Twenty-seven years.'

'Am I for you a fool?' roared the king.

'Both,' replied Paddy, who was instantly taken to the guard-house.

The Women of Genoa.

We are impressed strongly with the beauty and dress of the females (of Genoa). Light in frame, with dark hair and eyes, and finely proportioned, they seemed, in the gleaming of the day, rather to float than to walk before you. They wear no bonnets—a bonnet is a sure sign of a foreigner. The head-dress consists of a piece of muslin folded across the top of the head, elegantly pinned to the hair and gracefully falling around the neck and over the shoulders in the form of a large shawl. Their earrings are usually large and elegant. The countenances are brilliant and expressive, and although singular in dress and appearance, they are only their taste and elegance. We saw no female dress in Europe that we desired to see introduced into our country, save that of the Ladies of Genoa. On the evening of the 10th inst., we were invited to a ball at the Casino, where we saw the most beautiful women of the city.

NO MOTHER.

She has no mother! What a volume of sorrowful truth is comprised in that single sentence; no mother! We must go far down the hard, rough paths of life, and become insured to care and sorrow in their sternest forms, before we can take home to our own experience the dread reality; no mother; without a struggle and a tear. But when it is said of a frail young girl, just passing from childhood towards the life of woman, how sad is the story summed up in that one short sentence. Who now shall administer the needed counsel; who now shall check the wayward fancies; who now shall bear with the errors and failings of the motherless girl?

Deal gently with the child. Let not the cup of her sorrow be overfilled by the harshness of your bearing, or your unsympathizing coldness. Is she heedless of her doing? Is she forgetful of her duty? Is she careless in her movements? Remember, oh remember, "she has no mother!" When her young companions are gay and joyous, does she sit sorrowing? Does she pass with a downcast eye and languid step, when you would fain witness the gushing and overflowing gladness of youth? "Chide her not, for she is motherless; and the great sorrow comes upon her soul like an incubus. Can you gain her confidence, can you win her love? Come then to the motherless with the boon of your tenderest care, and gently perhaps passed away; for the fulness of your own remembered sorrow by the possibility that your own child may yet be motherless; contribute, as far as you may, to relieve the loss of that frail child, who is written, Motherless.

The Nebraska Bill.

As it passed the Senate, except the Clayton amendment, has passed the House, and ere this is Law. It gives no popular control to the People of the Territories—it admits no principle of Liberty not recognized by Colonial Government in Monarchies. It is a cheat, a fraud, a violation of faith, and that for Slavery. Can we say worse? And in the 19th century, with the Declaration of Independence, and its broad recognition of Human Rights for our national principle, it is passed with the determination, so far as mere government can do so, to extend and enlarge slavery. Well it is rather a pitiful result for the magnanimous sacrifices of the Republican Fathers! And is this all the great results which Democratic Institutions bring to mankind? Is this all we have to hope for? We know not. Time alone can tell, and public indifference gives little hope for more. Let us be content. Resistance, agitation, will do no good. The present age will last out. Let the future take care of itself. Shall we disquiet ourselves for other ages, or to preserve unsullied a glorious patrimony? No—rather let us look to party gains, and the acquisition of the Almighty Dollar. No sacrifices are irrelative and why should they be made? But the Nebraska Bill is Law. Of course it is right, and our generation if it is wrong will not suffer. Let that console us.—*Kalida Venture*.

Circumstantial Evidence.

Some years ago, I went specially to Oronell assigner, and accidentally witnessed a trial which I never shall forget. A wretched man, a native of that country, was charged with the murder of his neighbor. It seemed that an ancient feud existed between them. They had met at a fair and exchanged blows; again that evening, they met at a low pot house, and the bodily interference of friends alone prevented a fight between them. The prisoner was heard to vow vengeance against his rival. The wretched victim left the house, followed soon after by the prisoner, and was found next day on the road-side, murdered, and his face so barbarously beaten in by a stone, that he could only be identified by his dress. The facts were strong against the prisoner; in fact, it was the strongest case of circumstantial evidence I ever met with. As a form of his guilt there was no doubt—the prisoner was called for his defence. He called—to the surprise of every one; the murdered man came forward! It seemed that another man had been murdered—that the identification by dress was vague, for all the peasantry of Tipperary wear the same description of clothes—that the presumed victim had got a hint that he would be arrested under the White Boy act—had fled, and only returned with a noble and Irish feeling of justice, when he found that his ancient foe was in jeopardy on his account. The case was clear; the prisoner was innocent. The Judge told the Jury that it was unnecessary to charge them; they requested permission to retire; they returned in about two hours, when the foreman with a long face handed him the verdict 'guilty!' Every eye was astonished. 'Good God!' said the Judge, 'of what is he guilty?' Not of murder surely!—No my Lord, said the foreman, 'but if he did not murder that man, sure he stole my gray mare three years ago.'—*Daniel O'Connell*.

Dr. John C. Warren says that tobacco used in the way of smoking, drawn in with the vital breath, conveys its influence into every part of the lungs, there the noxious fluid is entangled in the minute porous air cells, and has time to vitiate the blood which imbues the stimulant narcotic principle, and circulates it through the whole system, producing the consequences, a habit which is one of the most dangerous and deadly of the age.

CALIFORNIA ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO.

The following description of this country as it was a century and a half ago, is taken from the published transactions of the Royal Society, from 1720 to 1725, and first printed in the year 1731.

"California, the peninsula, has been known nearly two centuries. Its name is famous for its fertility. Nor do I doubt that, during the time to be found in several places, if they were sought for, since the country is under the same degree as the provinces of Sinaloa and Sonora, where there are very rich ones. Heaven has been so bountiful to the Californians, that the earth brings forth of itself what it does not do elsewhere without a great deal of labor and pains; yet they make no use of the plenty and riches of their country, contenting themselves with what is necessary for life, and taking little care for the rest. Parts of the country are very populous. They are a lively people. The climate is healthy. In the valleys excellent pasture is found all times, for great and small cattle, sheep, wild grapes, vines, &c., and as it abounds in fruit, it does not need so much grain, which there are further sorts that the people feed on. They have plenty of strawberries, water-melons, they eat plentifully. Their citrons and water-melons are of an extraordinary size. Most plants bear fruit three times a year. We brought with us, from New Spain, Indian corn, wheat, peas, lentils, &c., and they are very plentiful. We likewise brought with us horses and colts for stock, and we want to breed up hogs; but as they are afraid of them, we have resorted to exterminate them. The climate is so mild that the mangoes, and the women wear an apron covering from waist to knee."

Japan.—From the best sources, it appears that Japan resembles Great Britain, being three islands, Nippon, Kiusu, and Sikkof, that correspond nearly to England, Ireland, and Wales. These islands comprise Japan proper, with an immense population of 25,000,000. They are numerous dependent islands—some, nearly the size of Ireland, a portion belonging to Russia, the Loo-Choo Islands, etc., that may contain as many more people. Japan is about the latitude of Southern Europe, and yet it is as cold as the country of Great Britain. The highest mountains are covered with snow much of the year, and snow often lies for several days in the country at large. There are not many high mountains, nor large rivers and lakes in the country. The mountains that exist are generally volcanic in their origin. Almost every acre of the soil is made productive, though not specially so by nature. The hills are generally cultivated to their tops. It is acknowledged to be one of the best cultivated countries in the world. This has become necessary, in order that so dense a population may be supported; as they have but precious little commerce, they must raise their own food, and starve if they do not produce it. It is a principal article of food. Aside from rice, they raise Indian corn, vegetables, and many other articles that are produced in this country. Japan is a wealthy country, as it abounds with gold and silver, copper and other metals. Besides, the people are very industrious and enterprising, and often remind one of the Yankees. They have their "mercantile princes," as well as other nations. In education, the Japanese are beyond most Asiatics; and are more like Europeans. The Japanese are like the Portuguese in their general appearance. They dress more like the Chinese. The higher classes dress very nicely as well as gaily. They shine in gold.

EVILS OF HABITUAL NOVEL READING.—It cannot but be injurious that the human mind should thus be called to an effort beyond its power of receiving pleasure without any exertion of thought, by the mere excitement of curiosity and sensibility, may be justly ranked among the worst effects of novel reading. Those who confine their reading to the perusal of their own faculties, and finally reduce their understanding to a deplorable imbecility. Like idle morning visitors, the brisk and breathless period hurry in, and hurry off in quick and profitable succession, each in its own way, and in the moment of its stay, prevents the pain of vacancy, while it induces the love of sloth; but altogether, they leave the restlessness of the house, the soul, the mind flat and exhausted, incapable of attending to the duties of life, and of attending to the conversation of more rational guests.—*Coleridge*.

NEW RUSSIAN TELEGRAPH LINE.—The Czar has just completed arrangements by which he may learn the London news of the morning almost, perhaps as soon as the merchants of that city see their newspapers. The electric telegraph has long been in operation between St. Petersburg and Warsaw, and for some time numbers of men have been employed in completing the line, which is to extend from Warsaw to the Prussian frontier. But in order not to lose time while the work is going on, the Czar has caused the portion already constructed, to be connected with the Prussian telegraph near Mynowitz, and by this means St. Petersburg is placed in direct communication with the capital of Western Europe. There is no longer any reason why the embarkation of a regiment at Southampton, or the departure of a ship from Portsmouth should not be known in the Russian capital before either of them can get out of the harbor. There is, however, no reciprocity of advantage. The Russian line is not open to private dispatches.

WORTH KNOWING.—To preserve bacon or dried meats during the summer, is perhaps as good as much trouble and anxious care to the housekeeper, as any other domestic duty. But there is a way, simple, cheap and easy, it is only to expose the ham, after being well smoked, and your dried meat when sufficiently cured, to the fumes of burning brimstone. The most convenient way of doing it is to hang it separately in the smoke house, and having a fire of coals, to throw upon them a handful of brimstone, and immediately close the door, letting it remain so until the fumes are dissipated. This will secure it from the attacks of the fly, or any other insect which may be injurious to the flavor or quality. The smoke house, if you have a good one, is the best place to keep your meat through the summer, or a repository for fresh meat. The impregnation of the waste from the smoking, according to the season, from the fly.

THE WHITE VEIL.—A beautiful but strange custom prevails among the Japanese, by which the bride receives a disguised person as a present from her friends. In Japan the bride frequently receives presents of jewelry and dress, but in Japan her friends give her a white veil, a large, loose, and heavy one, which she wears all day, and which she never takes off until she is alone. This custom is said to have originated in the fact that the Japanese are very fond of jewelry, and the bride's friends, in order to avoid the expense of giving her a large quantity of jewelry, give her a white veil, which she wears all day, and which she never takes off until she is alone. This custom is said to have originated in the fact that the Japanese are very fond of jewelry, and the bride's friends, in order to avoid the expense of giving her a large quantity of jewelry, give her a white veil, which she wears all day, and which she never takes off until she is alone.